

REGION EIGHT

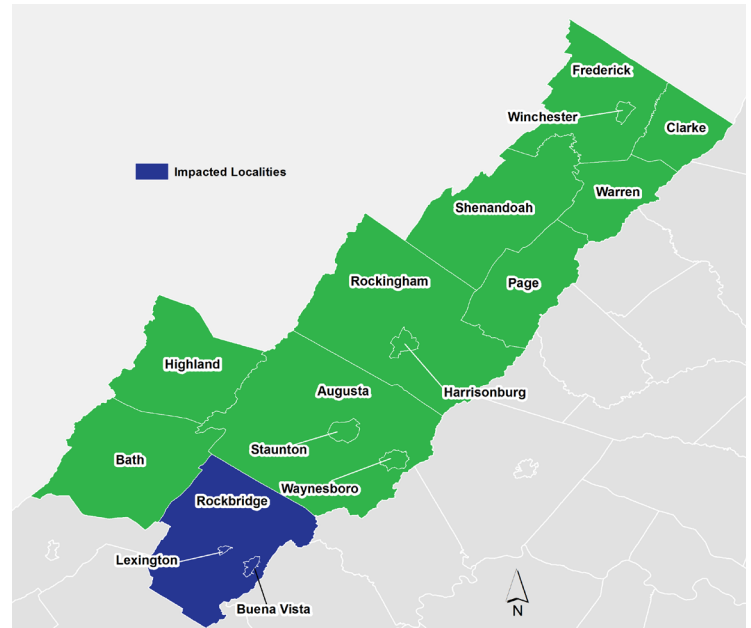
Rockbridge Area Advanced Manufacturing Program (RAAMP)

Byers Technical Institute (BTI)



VIRGINIA INITIATIVE FOR
GROWTH & OPPORTUNITY
IN EACH REGION

This project aims to address the demand for welders throughout the Shenandoah Valley by increasing enrollment and student access to training opportunities in welding. Byers Technical Institute (BTI) is a branch of Byers Inc., which opened the new technical training center in August 2017, in order to address the high demand for skilled welders at Byers, as well as several of their local industry partners. GO Virginia funds will be used to purchase additional training equipment and to hire and train new instructors, which will facilitate the introduction of additional course offerings, including nights and weekends.



Strategy:
Talent Development and Credentialing

7 percent of region's population impacted

Partners:
Buena Vista Public Schools, Rockbridge County Public Schools and Waynesboro Metal Fabricators

Participants:



- ✓ City of Buena Vista
- ✓ City of Lexington
- ✓ Rockbridge County

Targeted Clusters:

- Light Manufacturing

Funding Request:

➡ \$100,000



Total Project Budget:

\$ 200,000 ◀

Project Outcomes:

- Purchase and implementation of new training equipment
- Expansion of BTI course schedule
- Graduation of 72 welders over five years
- \$41,000 vs. \$40,199 average per capita income for the region
- Return on Investment (ROI): Increase state revenue by \$306,000 over five year

